

CALIFORNIA'S CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

Released: August 11, 2000

The California Agricultural Statistics Service today released the latest crop production forecast for August. The latest survey, conducted during the last week of July, included the following commodities:

Apples - California's 2000 apple acreage is estimated at 31,000, an 11% decrease from 1999. The yield is forecast to be 11.8 tons per acre with a total production of 365,000 tons, 11% less than the 1999 production. Cold weather in some areas early in the season resulted in poor pollination. Later, heat waves in areas caused some fruit burn. Overall, the apple crop is reported to be in good condition.

Cotton - *Upland* cotton production in California is forecast at 2.00 million bales, up 27% from last year. Harvested acreage is estimated to be 765,000, with a yield of 1,255 pounds per acre. California's *American Pima* cotton production forecast is 370,000 bales, down 39% from last year. Harvested acreage is estimated to be 149,000, with a yield of 1,192 pounds per acre.

Grapes - *Wine* type variety grape production for California is forecast at a record 3.20 million tons, up 20% from 1999. The *table* type grape production is expected to total 800,000 tons, up 6% from last year. The California *raisin* type variety grape forecast is 2.70 million tons, up 28% from 1999. Good quality was reported, but growers were concerned about slow bunch development.

Olives - The 2000 olive crop forecast is 80,000 tons, down 45% from the 1999 production of 145,000 tons. Bearing acres are estimated to be 36,000. A warm, mild spring brought a heavy bloom, however rains in the northern producing regions were detrimental and greatly reduced fruit set.

Pears - The forecast of the 2000 *Bartlett* pear crop in California is 280,000 tons, down 10% from 1999. The Bartlett pear harvest is well underway in the Sacramento area with approximately 40% of the crop picked and good quality reported. The 2000 *other pear* forecast for California is 30,000 tons, unchanged from 1999. *Asia* pear picking is underway with good quality reported.

Others - The *rice* production forecast is 43.3 million cwt., up 11% from 1999; *alfalfa hay* is 6.94 million tons, down 1%; *other hay* is 1.48 million tons, up 1%; *corn* is 1.12 million tons, up 18%; *sugar beets* are 3.17 million tons, down 8%; *dry beans* are 2.24 million cwt., down 14%.

The next production report will be issued September 12, 2000.